



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

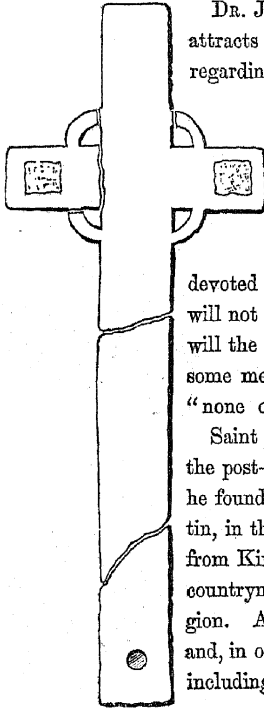
JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

# THE ISLAND OF TORY; ITS HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES.

By EDMUND GETTY, M.R.I.A.

~~~~~  
"Usque Columbinam insulam quæ THORACH dicitur."  
~~~~~

## PART I.



DR. JOHNSON, by a few eloquent words, created an interest in Iona that still attracts to its shores pilgrims of every class; and awakens a lively curiosity regarding the history of the personage who founded its remarkable ecclesiastical buildings,—our own Columba. It is not, however, any disparagement to that sacred territory to affirm, that the Island which forms the subject of the present article (and which was also one of the seats of the Royal Saint) has an interest not possessed by the Hebridean; inasmuch as we find in it, at this hour, remains of the very buildings erected by the early Christian monks, who had there devoted themselves to a life of holy seclusion. It will be found that this interest will not be diminished by a careful examination of the remains themselves; nor will the poetic fervour of the visitor be cooled down by the "ipse dixit" of some member of a Church-architectural Society, informing the enthusiast that "none of these ruins date earlier than the thirteenth century."

Saint Columba was one of the most remarkable Christian missionaries of the post-apostolic ages, not only on account of the number of churches which he founded, but for the purity of his life and doctrine. He was born at Gartin, in the county of Donegall, about the year 521; and, although his descent from King Niall of the Nine Hostages gave him a high civil rank among his countrymen, he, from a very early age, devoted himself to the service of religion. According to Jocelyn and Usher, he founded one hundred monasteries: and, in one of the lives published by Colgan, his entire ecclesiastical foundations, including monasteries and churches, are estimated at three hundred. A well-

defined tradition still existing in Donegall, and likewise the records of the period immediately succeeding his death, have handed down numerous interesting details of his private life, and of his teaching. It is not to be denied that, in the course of ages, many fictitious particulars have been added by his admirers; but, as the lichen on an ancient monument does not conceal its form, so the judicious inquirer has no difficulty in perceiving that this holy man was indefatigable in his exertions to spread over the land the pure Christianity of the Apostolic ages; that he was earnest in prayer; that he devoted much time to the study and transcription of the Holy Scriptures; and that in his own person, he gave an illustrious example of practical virtue.

It is difficult to conjecture why, at a time when the Irish had already been converted to Christianity, he should have determined on establishing a monastery in Tory,<sup>a</sup> an island so completely cut off, as it must always have been, from communication with other parts of the country. In Iona, which is a secluded spot of about the same extent, he and his disciples found a comparatively safe retreat in troubled times, whence they could extend their missionary labours, and to which, as a harbour of refuge, they could return, when civil strife prevented their progress on the main land. In like manner, we may presume that, dreading some civil convulsion in Ireland which might prove fatal to the cause of religion, he intended that this almost inaccessible spot should be the means of preserving the sacred deposit until better times should arrive.

The island further deserves attention as having been (even before the ecclesiastical epoch already mentioned,) one of the strongholds of that extraordinary people, who, under the general name of Scandinavians, ravaged and partially settled the coasts of the British islands;—the same people who afterwards as Normans, played an important part in the history of this country:—for the invasion in the time of Henry II. was only a return of the ancient foe, civilized by the restraints of a settled government, and inclined to colonize, rather than to plunder, the land they had so often stooped on from their impregnable rock-fortresses. This is not the fitting place to pursue such an inquiry, further than suggesting that many of the early invasions, supposed to have been direct from Denmark or Norway, may have been made from settlements in some of the numerous islands along the coasts of Great Britain and Ireland:—for we have, as yet, no proof that the people spoken of by the Bards as “Africans,” really came from the south.

The present communication originated in a visit paid to the island in August 1845, by the writer, accompanied by Mr. Hyndman and Mr. Grattan of Belfast, with the view of making some excavations at the round tower, by permission of the proprietor, Mr. Woodhouse.

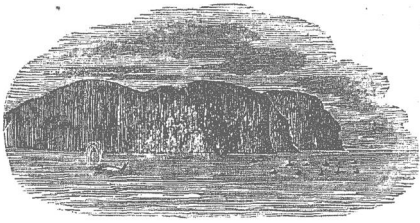
The nearest point, at which a vessel can lie in safety, is Sheephaven; and here the yacht took the party on board opposite to the little town of Dunfanaghy. From this the sail to Tory is very beautiful, passing under Horn Head, a bold promontory<sup>b</sup> descending abruptly into the sea, from a height

---

<sup>a</sup> This name is always pronounced as if written in English TORRY.

<sup>b</sup> It is composed of mica-slate and quartzose and sandstone.

nearly seven hundred feet. Large flocks of water-fowl breed in its caverns and continually encircle its rugged sides, while the sea-eagle soars aloft with its young. The peculiar appearance which gives name to the head-land is very discernible; two projecting peaks at the summit assuming the resemblance of the short thick horns of an ox.



vain in shallow water. When Tor-more on the east is reached, the cliffs of the island form a beautiful prospect; while, on the opposite side, the coasts of Donegall and Derry, with their receding headlands and mountains, and Innistrathull on the verge of the horizon, altogether form a picture equal to any on the Irish coast.

Under the most favourable circumstances there is always some difficulty in effecting a landing on Tory, even with the kind assistance of the inhabitants. On this occasion, they sent off a "curragh" and a large boat to receive the "new master," (as the landlord was called among them,) and the shore and head-land were covered with people, as if to welcome the arrival of the visitors. The landing-place is in a small "cove" romantically situated in the shelter of the cliffs, and partially defended from the waves of the Atlantic by a high pinnacle of rock called Tor-a-hauv, having a narrow passage between it and the land. This landing-place is called Port-Doon from its proximity to an ancient Dun or strong-hold. There is, however, no safe anchorage where a vessel can lie; and therefore, it was necessary to send back the yacht to the main land, or, as it is termed in the phraseology of the islanders, "the country." The present party, after remaining in the island a sufficient time to effect their objects, returned to Dunfanaghy; and it may be mentioned, as showing the uncertainty of the communication with Tory, (even in summer,) that it was not till a considerable time after their departure that any vessel or boat could approach its shore. Even in Sheephaven the sea was running fearfully on the bar; and a smack which passed the yacht, beating up to the island to load kelp, was wrecked, a few hours after, on Innisbofinn.

From Ballyness Bay, a boat occasionally goes out to Tory with letters; passing in its direct course the three smaller islands of Innisbofinn, Innisdooey, (on which is a cemetery,) and Innisbeg. The principal intercourse with Tory is from this quarter; the people being under the spiritual direction of the priest of "Cross roads" for the time being. It is not necessary at present to make any further allusion to these smaller islands. Near Horn Head is a place called Marafagh, where it is the custom to inter *pro tempore* the bodies which are a-bearing to Tory, but detained by stress of weather.

Tory lies about nine miles from the nearest part of the coast of Donegall, and is included territorially in the parish of Tullaghobegly, barony of Kilmacrenan. Its length is about three miles, its breadth one. Its superficial contents are 1200 acres; 200 of which are considered arable or pasture land. It contains three lakes, two of them, Lough Ayes and Lough Ahoocy of considerable size; the other is named Lough A-her. The Commissioners of Irish lights erected a light-house here in 1832, which is of great service to mariners, and has greatly diminished the number of shipwrecks, caused by the position of the island in the direct course, vessels entering or departing by the North Channel. It is visible in clear weather at the distance of 17 nautical miles, the lantern standing 122 feet above the level of the sea at high-water. Numerous birds are killed by striking against the plate-glass windows, being attracted by the light. A very interesting collection of these was made by Mrs. Bailie, an English lady who resided here for some years, while her husband was in charge. The specimens were all preserved and set up by herself, and exhibited a proof, if such were required, that a person of intelligence can never be at a loss for useful employment.

Before the erection of the light-house the inhabitants derived considerable profit from acting as pilots, and also from the timber thrown on shore.—In one place a deep hollow is shewn on the cliffs communicating with the sea, through which whole logs of timber are occasionally shot up by the violence of the waves. A gun fired into it produced a very loud report. It resembles the famous cavern near Horn Head, called MacSwine's gun, through which the water rushes with such violence as to produce a loud report. It is not uninteresting to add that Mr. Graham, in his account of Iona, describes a cavern of the same nature there.

The only place on the island where a few shrubs flourish is a hollow formed by the subsidence of the surface into a cavern beneath.—This was named by the party "Hyndman's garden," but its Celtic designation is Lagrehy or the "ram's-hollow."

There are two "towns" on the island, ("villages" perhaps is a more correct expression,) East Town and West Town; the latter being the principal, and containing the Round Tower and the Ecclesiastical ruins. The building materials are fragments of red granite, and the covering of the houses is straw, kept down by ropes of the same material and by stones. As limestone is not found on the island, the mortar, both ancient and modern, has been obtained by burning sea shells, chiefly those of the limpet; the animal of which is used in large quantities as food and as bait. To a cursory observer, the present dwellings have as much appearance of antiquity as the older buildings; and it is difficult to distinguish ancient from modern walls. In one place artificial caves are shown, said to have been formed during the war "to conceal the people from the French;" but more probably from English press-gangs. The most likely suggestion, however, is their use by smugglers before an Excise steamer put an end to their traffic. At one time, large quantities of whiskey were illicitly distilled on the island,—the trade is now at an end, and every inhabitant a "teetotaller."

The land is generally held by the old "rundale" tenure, by virtue of which, each individual tenant has a proportion of every kind of land, and no one a permanent possession of a separate part.

TORRY ISLAND. II.



By J. S. M. L. 1847. To The Queen.

WEST. TOWN

Improved agriculture, or fencing and ditching, are of course, almost unknown; the land is badly tilled, and affords scanty crops of oats and potatoes;—and it is, perhaps, a result of the perfect simplicity of the modes of culture, that the potato disease did not reach this distant island.\* The most profitable business seems the manufacture of kelp from sea-weed; and at the time of the present visit, the “market” was as much agitated, on its small scale, by the arrival of a few purchasers, as some of the great marts where the wealth of nations is exchanged. The prosperity of this trade arises from the large proportion of *iodine* this kelp produces, which gives it a comparatively high value. Every one was alive to exertion. Persons of every age and sex were employed collecting the sea-weed, or carrying it off the beach on the small island horses, in panniers having a moveable bottom which drops down on removing a pin. Lord Brougham would have been delighted with the “schoolmaster,” for even he was “abroad.”<sup>a</sup>

Mr. Hyndman introduced a new trade, by offering a reward for the eggs and young of the “Mother Carey’s chickens,” which he understood bred on the Island. Demand, as usual, in such cases, produced supply; and the market which opened at 6d. per egg, soon fell to a very small fractional part. This gentleman records a story that fully confirms the opinion of Avienus regarding the Irish, “negociandi cura jugis omnibus;” for wishing to ascertain if the “fork-tailed Petrel” was also found, he offered a reward for a specimen. A boy, 10 or 12 years of age, soon brought him one, which he had ingeniously manufactured on the instant to agree with his description, by extracting the middle feathers of the tail of the Mother Carey’s chicken, and so claimed the reward!!

Few quadrupeds are found, except the rabbit, which is plentiful: and it is positively stated, that rats,—the universal plague of man,—will not live here. There is no doubt, that the frequency of wrecks, formerly gave them every facility for making the experiment;—but this, with other questions, is better reserved for discussion in notices of natural history. (*See Appendix communicated by Mr. Hyndman.*)

\* Since the above was written, the proprietor has induced a considerable number of the inhabitants to leave the island, and abolished “Rundale” entirely; and the land is now divided into farms, as in other parts of the country.

<sup>a</sup> The following notice of chemicals produced from Irish Sea-weed, appeared in the Dublin Freeman’s Journal, under date 27th Sept. 1851.—

Irish Produce.—I observed in the Great Exhibition a case of chemical stuffs produced from Irish sea-weed—viz. iodine, chloride of potassium, sulphate of potash, and alkaline, or kelp salt—manufactured in the Ramelton Chemical Works, by the exhibitor, Mr. John Ward. These works, the first of the kind started in Ireland, were established by Mr. Ward, in March 1845, in Ramelton, a small town on an arm of Lough Swilly, Co. Donegal. Previous to their establishment the people of the north-west coast of Ireland had comparatively no home market for the produce of their industry, in so far as regarded the manufacture of kelp from sea-weed, consequently

but little was produced; but since the opening of the works in Ramelton by the enterprising exhibitor, (who was generally considered at the time to be making a rather bold experiment,) a large annual consumption of kelp at the works has caused it to be made in much greater abundance, and the prices raised to a considerable extent; causing thereby not only a large circulation of money in that part of Ireland, but conferring great benefits on the neighbouring coasts by the extensive employment it affords to the poorer classes round the districts; who, but for this field of commerce having been opened up almost at their own doors, would, in many cases, be unemployed, and in destitute circumstances. To the town of Ramelton the chemical works have been of the greatest benefit, by the number of workmen and labourers employed in and around it, and the very considerable shipping trade, in vessels ranging from 50 to 120 tons, which the importation of manufactured stuffs has been the means of bringing to Lough Swilly.

There is no flax grown on the island ; but there is pasture for a limited number of sheep. There is neither resident magistrate nor clergyman, doctor nor lawyer, and it is only very recently that a schoolmaster made his way thither under the auspices of the National Board. Irish is the universal language ; and, with the exception of a dwarf called Halliday, and the officials connected with the light-house, the people belong exclusively to the Roman Catholic Church. A clergyman from Cross-roads, on the opposite coast of Donegall, visits them periodically ; or, in a case of urgency, a "curragh" is sent over to bring him. In his absence, prayers are read on Sundays by one of the islanders, at what is called "St. John the Baptist's altar," near the Round Tower ; and baptism is administered in case of necessity, the water used being contained in an ancient stone vessel, which will be afterwards more particularly noticed.

It is said that, when occasion requires more than usual deliberation on the part of the people, they elect a "king." The last occasion when this august ceremony took place was for the purpose of considering whether geese should be allowed to be kept on the island ; as complaints had been made that they injured the crops. A legislative decree was the result, banishing all geese for the future !

A general notice such as the present would be incomplete without some account of the "Curragh," the principal means of communication possessed by the islanders with the main land. The Curragh is one of the most primitive, and certainly, with parties accustomed to its management, is, from its buoyancy, one of the safest of boats. The canoe formed from the hollow trunk of a tree may have preceded its use ; but the raw hide of a newly slain animal, properly extended, presented a readier means of constructing a boat, and became, to the early inhabitants of the British islands, what the birch-tree bark is to the American Indian. In the sculptures from Nineveh, a similar use of the hide is observed as a means of crossing rivers, but the application is less ingenious ; being merely a skin inflated by air, like what is called on some parts of the Irish coast a "stookey." Cæsar, Pliny, Claudian, Festus Avienus, Sidonius, Gildas, all refer to the Curragh ; and Dr. O'Connor in his first Prolegomenon (*Rerum Hibernicarum Scriptores*) has collected numerous references with regard to it—"They are still used," he says "and are called in Irish *Nímhog* and *Curragh*." In these boats, according to Gildas, the Irish made their irruptions into Britain about the year 431, during the Reign of the Emperor Theodosius. The term Curragh (*Corrocha* in Latin) is possibly derived from the same root with the Latin word *Corium*. The frame-work consists of a gunwale and a quantity of branches for ribs, which are kept in their places by smaller twigs interwoven. According to the original fashion, a fresh hide with the hair inside was drawn over this skeleton, and, being laced with thongs to the gunwale, became rigid as it contracted in drying. At present, a cheaper material is found in tarred canvass, manufactured from flax or hemp spun by the women, and which is considered of superior strength to what is purchased at a warehouse. The same opinion exists respecting fishing-gear ; for the fishermen consider nets, formed from twine made in their own houses, much more valuable than any other. To render the canvass secure it is made double, and tarred ; a layer of brown paper being generally inserted between the two portions of canvass. On the coast of the opposite main land, the curraghs have generally sharp bows



and square sterns; but those of a moderate size, intended to pass with safety through the long swell of the Atlantic, are square, or nearly so, at both extremities. An old cutter's-man stated that, off the Shannon, they often pull six oars, and that few boats can come up with them. He agreed in considering them the safest of all boats in the hands of men accustomed to their management; during all his experience in the Sound of Tory, he never knew or heard of one being lost, though they venture out in all weathers. They are rowed with short oars or paddles, the smaller ones having two pair, one man pulling a pair: they are what fishermen call "club-oars." In crossing through a heavy sea the islanders were observed to impel them in the manner of the Indians; that is, in place of oars, each man used a paddle without any rest on the gunwale. When two men so circumstanced are in one boat, one kneels in the bow, while his partner sits about the centre, both paddling in the manner described.

Cattle are transported across the Sound in these boats; and they are so light that a man easily carries one on his back. They then present a rather curious appearance, not unlike a huge beetle; and this led to a standing joke against an Entomologist of the present party, who was charged with attempting to stick a pin into one of them and transfer it to his cabinet!

In one of the numerous legends connected with the history of the Irish Saint Brendan or Brandan, who flourished in the eleventh century, he and his companions are represented as constructing vessels on the west coast of Ireland, precisely similar to the Curragh of the present day, "in accordance with the established custom of the country." His, however, had the addition of a mast and sail. Saint Brendan is the Sinbad of clerical romance; and so firm a hold on men's minds had the exploits of this christian Ulysses acquired at one time, that islands, supposed to be discovered by him, became subjects of treaty; and it is even not improbable that at a later period they may have stimulated a higher class of navigators to attempt discoveries across the western ocean.

# NOTES ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF TORY ISLAND,

BY GEORGE C. HYNDMAN. AUGUST, 1845.

## ZOOLOGY.

### MAMMALIA.

- Mus musculus*,—the Mouse, common in the houses.  
*(Mus decumanus*,—the Rat, is not found on the Island.  
 The common opinion among the people is that it will not live there: they state as a fact that a couple which once came ashore from a vessel were found dead next morning.)  
*Lepus caniculus*,—the Rabbit, is common, burrowing in various places, often close to the cliffs.  
*Phoca*?—Seals are said to be found about the island, but it is not known that they breed here.  
*Whale*.—We saw one spouting off Horn Head. It several times threw a jet of water 6 or 8 feet high in the air. There was a school of Gulls near, as if the whale was among a shoal of fish. It was, perhaps, 20 to 25 feet in length.  
 (Five Whales were taken, 2 or 3 years ago, off Dunfanaghy or mouth of Mulroy Bay.)

### BIRDS.

- Haliaeetus albicilla*,—the Sea-Eagle. A pair of this bird was seen on the island; it is said to be occupied by a pair every year, but never by more.  
 A tame one was seen at Dunfanaghy, where it was allowed to fly about and always returned. It appeared pleased when noticed by its owner.  
*Falco peregrinus*,—the Peregrine Falcon, was not seen by any of the party, but is said to breed regularly on the island.  
*Saxicola oenanthe*,—the Wheatear, several were seen.  
*Motacilla Yarellii*,—the pied Wagtail, one or two seen.  
*Anthus petrosus*,—the rock Pipit, a few seen along the shore.  
*Emberiza miliaris*,—the common Bunting, a few seen.  
*Passer domesticus*,—the common Sparrow, several seen about the Round Tower and the Houses.  
*Sturnus vulgaris*,—the Starling, numerous on the island. Several were seen among the rocks on the edge of the cliffs, where they were said to resort generally, except in the breeding season, when they took possession of the Round Tower, which is surrounded by the cabins of one of the "Towns." (A young bird of this season was shot by one of the party.)  
*Fragulus graculus*,—the Chough, was seen in numbers about the rocks.  
*Corvus corax*,—the Raven, its CROAK was heard on the island. It is said that one pair and never more frequent Tory.  
*corvus cornix*,—the hooded Crow, seen.  
*Cuculus canorus*,—the Cuckoo, was said to be occasionally heard on the island, "once in seven years," and its note is considered a good omen for the crops.  
*Hirundo* —: One species was said to breed either against the cliffs or in the caves. We saw some of the birds on the wing as we rowed along the rocky coast.  
*Columba livia*,—the Rock Dove, builds in the caves along the coast.  
*Scelopax gallinago*,—the common Snipe, is said to come to the island in winter, but is not known to breed there.  
*Crex pratensis*,—the Corncrake, or Landrail, was heard by us every day whilst we remained. It is said to visit the island regularly.  
*Uria Troile*,—the common Guillemot, was seen swimming between Tory and Horn Head, one pair with young ones full grown.  
*Fratercula arctica*,—the Puffin, a few were seen swimming between Tory and Horn Head.  
*Laridae* —  
 Several of the Gull Tribe breed here in the season, but we were too late to see them in numbers.  
*Larus marinus*? and *argentatus*?—were probably the species seen perched on the isolated pinnacles of rock, of which there are many on the N.E. end of the island.  
*Thalassidroma pelagica*,—the Stormy Petrel, called by sailors Mother Carey's chickens. These birds breed in numbers in the Rabbit burrows of the cliffs on the northern side of the island, out of which they were drawn by the boys with their hands: when so far in that they could not be reached, the entrance was broken down by the feet until the birds were within reach. There seemed to be only a single nest in each burrow. The season was rather far advanced for the eggs to be found plentiful, but about 6 or 8 were procured, as also about half a dozen of young birds, all in the down, but of different ages. Fully twenty old birds were taken and many more could have been had, but as we had no wish to allow them to be destroyed wantonly, about the half of those taken were set at liberty. When released from the top of the cliffs which were 200 to 280 feet high, they shot off immediately in a straight line down towards the water, their flight resembling that of a swallow. The boys who caught the birds seemed desirous to prevent me from seeing how they took them, so that I did not get a good opportunity of seeing if any nest was formed, but I believe not, and that the eggs are laid on the soft dry mould in the burrows: I observed that the boys put their ears to the holes while others stamped over them, by which they seemed to know if the birds were within. In the few cases I had an opportunity

of observing I never saw more than one young bird or one egg taken out of one burrow, but I could not ascertain if more than one old bird was ever taken in one nest.

I was surprised to hear one of the old captives, when held in the hand, warbling some sweet notes, which resembled the swallow's twittering, but of a stronger tone. Several when first taken ejected food from their stomach, which appeared to be the remains of fish. I did not observe any of them to eject oil from their nostrils, as they are said to do, although I tried to make them do so. The natives called them by an Irish word which signified *Oil Bird*.

From the circumstance of these birds being generally seen at night, which is their regular time for feeding, the people here imagine that they would be killed by the Gulls, and that this is the reason of their not being seen by day. One bird which escaped from me was watched to see whether it would not be attacked by the Gulls before it reached a place of safety, but nothing of the kind took place, nor is it likely from the rapid flight of the Petrel that any Gull could molest it.

All the birds seen by me were the common Petrel, and I offered an extra reward for the capture of a fork-tailed Petrel, (*P. Leachii*), nor was it long till a specimen was brought to me manufactured on the instant by the middle-tail feathers being extracted, and the outer ones left. A little fellow, perhaps, 10 or 12 years of age, came forward seriously to claim the reward of one shilling for this Fork-tail!

#### REPTILES.

None of this tribe, not even the Frog, is found in Tory.

#### FISHES.

*Cottus bubalis*,—one taken in the rock pools.

*Pagellus centrodontus*,—this fish is called the "Brazier" by the people at Tory and along the coast of Donegal adjacent. It is taken in great numbers by the people who go out to fish in their corraghs with fishing rods, using the animal of the common Limpet as bait.

*Scomber Scomber*,—the Mackerel, we caught a single specimen only on the evening of our return from the Island.

*Bleennius pholis*,—common in the rock pools.

*Bleennius gunnellus*,—taken with the last.

*Gobius niger*,—taken under stones left dry at low water.

*Labrus maculatus*.—The Wrasse, or Bavin, two specimens caught by fishermen, were seen and purchased: one of them was very large, spotted and barred with orange and purple, the other was a uniform dark green and small size.

*Clupea harengus* or *sprattus*,—Herrings or Sprats, (if the former the young,) are occasionally taken in great quantities, simply by creels let down from the cliffs, in which they were said to be drawn up in hundreds. I saw their remains scattered about

on the grass. The people think that they are driven in thus close to the shore by the large fish which prey on them.

The Tory people have no nets nor long lines, nor any effective apparatus for fishing but their rude corraghs.

When at Milford, I saw at table, plenty of sprats (as ascertained by the late W. Thompson, Esq., from two specimens I brought home,) which had been brought from Donegal Bay, where they were said to be taken in great quantities occasionally; they are carted through the country and sold at a cheap rate.

*Gadus Morrhua*, *G. Eglefinus* and *Lota melva*,—the Cod, Haddock and Ling, are said to be abundant off the coast in the season and to be taken by the people in their usual way out of the corraghs with hand lines.

*Motella mustela*,—five bearded Cod, one specimen taken in a rock pool.

*Lepidogaster cornubiensis*.—Cornish Sucker. Of this curious and beautiful little fish several specimens were taken under stones left uncovered at low water.

*Syngnathus lumbriciformis*,—a few taken under stones at low water.

#### MOLLUSCA.

*Helix nemoralis*,—a single dead specimen only found, but it may be indigenous. (The species is extremely common among the Sand-hills on the coast near Dunfanaghy.)

*Limax agrestis*,—several were seen.

*Limneus pereger*,—several were found in the bog holes.

*Littorina littorea*,—found on the rocks.

" *rudis*, do.

" *neritoides*, do.

*Rissoa parva*

" *interrupta*.

" *rubra*.

*Lacuna quadrifasciata*.

*Phasianella pullus*—adhering to a large *Holothuria*.

*Trochus cinereus*—on the rocks.

" *umbilicatus*, do.

*Nassa macula*—several found alive among the rocks at low water.

*Purpura lapillus*—common on the rocks.

*Cypraea europæa*—one found living among the rocks at low water.

*Lottia virginea*—two specimens found alive on the rocks.

*Patella vulgata*.—This shell is very abundant, and of large size, and is of great importance to the islanders. It is taken in quantities by the women, off the rocks, by means of a flat sharp edged piece of iron, apparently made for the purpose, and used as bait for fish, principally, (at the time of our visit,) for the Brazier, (*Pagellus centrodontus*). I could not learn that it is ever eaten by the inhabitants.

Large piles of the shells were to be seen before the doors of the cabins, and the only lime to be had on the island is procured from the burnt shells. This seems to have been the case from remote times, as the mortar of the Round Tower, and the old churches, and the castle, seems to have been formed solely of this material. We also saw some of the houses that had been recently whitewashed from the same lime.

*Patella pellucida*—found on the rocks.

" *levis*, or *cœrulea*—from the root of *Laminaria*.

*Chiton cinereus*—two specimens on the rocks.

*Mytilus edulis*, var. *incurvatus*—was the only bivalve seen on the island. It was abundant, clustering in the crevices of the rocks, exposed to the sea, as I have seen on the coast of the Giant's Causeway.

*Teredo navalis*—seen in several pieces of drift wood, lying at one of the towns.

*Anatifa levis*—on drift timber with the last.

*Balanus punctatus*—covering the rocks.

#### CRUSTACEA.

*Xantho floridus*—was abundant under rocks and loose stones, near low water mark.

*Cancer pagurus*—the common Crab, was seen very large and fine.

*Homarus vulgaris*—the Lobster, also very fine.

*Portunus puber*—several were found of full size, under stones, just changing their shells.

*Porcellana platycheles*—with the last.

*Amphipoda*—three species.

*Orchestia littorea*?

*Talitrus locusta*?

———— not ascertained.

*Idotea* ————— one species, do.

*Lygia oceanica*—on the rocks, at the sea side.

#### ANNELIDA.

Three species.

#### ECHINODERMATA.

*Ophiocoma neglecta*—three or four among the sand, under stones.

*Asterina gibbosa*—several adhering to the under side of stones.

*Echinus sphaera*—a few at low water.

———— *lividus*—numerous among loose rolled stones of Granite, at low water mark, (consequently not burrowing.)

*Cucumaria* ————— under a large stone at extreme low water.

A very large species, like the "Nigger."

*Syrinx granulatus*—two specimens under stones.

#### ZOOPHYTES.

*Actinia mesembryanthemum*—plentiful.

#### AMORPHOZOA.

(Sponges,) three species.

*Halychondria seriata*.

#### LITHOPHYTA.

(Corallines,) *corallina officinalis*—common.

*Nullipora polymorpha*,—a singular variety was found, encrusting the rocks, and sometimes covering the clusters of Mussels.

#### INSECTS.

The common white Butterfly and the small copper, were seen in the Hollow (Legareighy): a large Moth was also seen flying about in the evening.

The common Earwig and a few Coleoptera were all that time permitted to observe.

List of Birds killed against the Light House, and preserved by Mrs. Bailey.

House Martin—A Bird of this species was found in Dec. 1844. "Its body was much wasted as if it had been long without food."

*Tringa variabilis*.

Fieldfare?

Redwing?

Wigeon—This Bird struck the copper dome, above the light, with such force that the sound was mistaken for that of a cannon shot fired by some vessel as a signal of distress, so that the Light House keeper actually went out to ascertain if such was the case. The Bird was found killed the next morning.

Puffin,

Oyster catcher,

Ring Dotterel.

Wood cock.

Land Rail.

Stormy Petrel—The fork-tailed Petrel had never been seen by Mrs. Bailey.

(Two sorts of West Indian seeds were in Mrs. Bailey's collection found on the shore.)

#### BOTANY.

List of Plants found on Tory Island:—

40 *Phænogamia*—Two Ferns.

*Ranunculus flammula*.

*Crambe maritima*.

*Polygala vulgaris*.

*Silene maritima*.

*Spergula arvensis*.

*Sagina procumbens*.

*Arenaria rubra*.

*Sedum anglicum*.

*Peplis portula*—in a boggy swamp by the road side.

*Lotus corniculatus*.

*Potentilla anserina*.

*Tormentilla officinalis*.

\* *Rosa spinosissima*,—almost herbaceous, and I saw only two little specimens, which I abstained from pulling, lest I might deprive the island of its last rose.

\* *Angelica sylvestris*

\* *Critillum maritimum*—(sapphire) on the cliffs, at the west end of the island. Brought to me by a man who said he had to be let down by a rope to reach the plant. I did not see it growing.

\* *Lonicera periclymenum* (Honeysuckle.)

\* *Hedera Helix* (Ivy.)

A single plant of Ivy was found climbing a little detached pinnacle of rock on the precipitous side of a curious deep Hollow (called by the natives *Lag-a-reithe*, (pronounced *Lagareighy*) the Ram's Hollow. This seemed to have been originally a large cave, communicating by an arched passage with the sea, the roof of which had afterwards fallen in. The passage to the sea still remained, but blocked up by loose stones.

The Plants marked \* were only found in this place.

*Jasione montana*.

\* *Solidago virgaurea*.

*Bellis perennis* (the Daisy, "blossoms everywhere.")

*Carduus* ——— one species of the Thistle seen.

*Apargia* ——— (species seen by Dr. Harvey, but could not be determined from the badness of the specimen I had.)

*Plantago maritima*.

*Statice armeria*.

*Calluna vulgaris*.

*Erica tetralix*.

\* ——— *cinerea*.

*Erythraea centaurium*.

*Gentiana campestris*.

*Anagallis arvensis*.

———— *tenella*—very abundant on the damp soil, flowering profusely.

*Euphrasia officinalis*.

\* *Thymus serpyllum*.

\* *Rumex acetosella*.

*Atriplex patula*.

*Salix fusca*, v. *argentea*.

\* *Juniperus communis*.

*Juncus bufonius*.

Two Grasses. *Agrostis canina*.

*Holcus lanatus*.

*Asplenium marinum*.

*Athyrium filix femina*.

#### ALGÆ, (Seaweeds.)

† *Fucus vesiculosus*.

† ——— *nodosus*

† *Himanthalia lorea*.

† *Laminaria digitata*.

*Rhodomenia laciniata*.

*Plocamium coccineum*.

*Ptilota plumosa*.

*Conferva rupestris*.

*Codium tomentosum*.

———— *adhaerens*? (examined by Dr. Harvey, and considered by him to be this species.)

† These are used in making Kelp. The manufacture of which has been latterly revived, on account of the quantity of Iodine which can be extracted from it. This substance is now used in the arts in dyeing some particular color, as well as in medicine. The Tory Island Kelp is found to be of very good quality, owing to the large Algæ being principally used in making it.